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that any municipality has not paid revised scale of salaries, except in the case of pandits, which was due to a misunderstanding because the salaries were under revision. Instructions have been issued that they must give effect to the scales which have already been recommended."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" If a municipality or local body pleads poverty, will the Government make good the deficit caused by the increase of salaries?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" If that happens, it is open to the municipalities to increase their fees."

Uncultivated lands in the South Kanara district.

* 197 *Q.*—SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM (on behalf of Sri D. Manjayya Hegde) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of acres of cultivable land remaining uncultivated in the South Kanara district;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the major portion of the uncultivated lands is found in the interior parts of the district; and

(*c*) what steps are taken to bring such uncultivated lands under cultivation?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) There are nearly 299,368 acres of cultivable land uncultivated in the South Kanara district.

" (*b*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*c*) The Government have thrown open all waste lands for temporary cultivation under the Grow More Food Campaign. The cultivation is free of assessment and this exemption has been continued up to the end of fasli 1357 (30th June 1948). In certain areas, concessional rates of water-cess have also been sanctioned. Other concessions such as grant of loans on liberal terms, subsidies for sinking wells and tanks and repairing old wells and tanks, subsidised distribution of seeds and manures are also made to enable ryots to increase production of food crops by bringing more lands under cultivation. A major portion of these lands is at the foot of the Western Ghat where malaria is rampant. People generally refrain from settling in these parts on account of malaria. Recently a Malaria Research Station has been formed by the Government of India at Mundaje village, Puttur taluk, for the benefit of areca growers. It is hoped that the major portion of the uncultivated lands in the ghat regions of Puttur taluk will be brought under cultivation when malaria control measures are undertaken. The question of starting a land colonisation scheme near Bethangady, Puttur taluk, is also under consideration."